

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	19184	Agenda Number	21.
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Meeting Date:	10/18/2012	Department:	Health and Human Services
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a 12-month contract with FRONT STEPS, INC. in an amount not to exceed \$293,101 under the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, HOMELESS HOUSING AND SERVICES PROGRAM grant for the expansion of men's shelter and maintenance, operations and furnishings at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless. The contract period is October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013. Related to Items # 19 and 20.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) Special Revenue Fund, Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) grant Housing Trust Fund. The grant period is October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	On September 11, 2012 the Council approved the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget.
For More Information:	Stephanie Hayden, Assistant Director, 972-5017; Susan Gehring, HHSD Manager, 972-5026; Chris Crookham, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) was initially authorized by the Texas Legislature in the 81st Legislative Session. It was the first program that authorized state funding for homeless services and homelessness prevention. The appropriation was divided among the eight largest cities in Texas according to population. Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) was assigned as manager. On August 28, 2012, Austin was informed that it would receive an additional \$495,865 in one-time funding from the HHSP Bonds and Housing Trust Fund for the grant period October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013. The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.

Housing Trust Fund - \$293,101 – Front Steps - ARCH

The Housing Trust Fund (\$293,101) is available for housing staff; maintenance, operations and furniture; construction and rehabilitation; and financial assistance. HTF funds allow up to 5% of the allocation to be utilized for

administration costs related to staff performing management, reporting and accounting of program activities and funds. This is one-time funding.

Maintenance, Operations and Furniture

This funding will support the expansion of men's sleeping by 15 mats by the purchase of additional mats. In addition, mats will be replaced for the rest of the shelter. In order to update the building, this funding will support replacement of all chairs and lockers, with larger and more varied sized lockers, and painting walls and updating wall wainscoting. This will also fund new modular furniture to reconfigure the entry way so that all clients will have easier access to staff and decreased lines. Finally, this funding will support the new HMIS Scan Card initiative which will promote a higher level of data quality and data sharing between the Salvation Army and the ARCH by purchasing new scan card system with a printer, scanners, and computers.

Rehabilitation

Funds will also be used to enclose an open mezzanine on the second floor and convert it to office space.

Administration

Administration: 5% of funds (\$14,655) are available for administration of the grant. This funding requires monthly reporting and high level of oversight for HHSD staff.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance Measures will be determined as the contract is developed with TDHCA.

Related Departmental Goal: Provision: Social Services – Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle among targeted populations.